

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
*Richmond, August 31, 1863.*

GENERAL ORDERS, }  
No. 116. }

I. Generals, or other officers commanding departments, armies in the field, posts or garrisons, will cause all deserters, stragglers or other absentees from duty, and all persons liable to military service, found within their lines and not belonging to their command, to be forthwith arrested and turned over to the nearest enrolling officer, whose duty it shall be to forward such absentees to their proper command, or, in case of conscripts, to assign them to service in the army nearest to his post, according to his discretion.

II. Under instructions from the Bureau of Conscription, an enrolling officer will be attached to each military department to carry out the purposes indicated in paragraph I.

III. Overseers entitled to exemption will be exempted from military service for one year, when the owner of the slaves of whom the overseer has had charge, shall present to the enrolling officer the receipt of a quartermaster for the amount of the tax imposed in such cases by the act of Congress, approved May 1, 1863. Officers of the Quartermaster's department are directed to receive and receipt for money thus paid.

By order.

S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General.*